

Will Create Bi-Partisan Commission to Recommend Changes to Reduce Crime and Violence, Control Costs

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Tom Rooney (R-FL) will join Reps Bill Delahunt (D-MA), Darryl Issa (R-CA) and Marcia Fudge (D-OH) for a press conference on Tuesday April 27, 2010 at 11:30AM in Room 2255 of the Rayburn House Office Building to announce the introduction of the National Criminal Justice Commission Act of 2010.

“We need to take a close look at what works and what does not in our criminal justice system,” Rooney said. “This bipartisan bill will create a commission to study all aspects of our criminal justice system and report back on what we can do better to prevent crime, reduce violence and control costs.”

The bill will create a blue-ribbon bipartisan commission charged with undertaking an 18-month comprehensive review of the Nation’s criminal justice system. The Commission will study all areas of the criminal justice system, including federal, state, local and tribal governments’ criminal justice costs, practices, and policies. After conducting the review, the Commission will make recommendations for changes in, or continuation of, oversight, policies, practices, and laws designed to prevent, deter, and reduce crime and violence, improve cost-effectiveness, and ensure the interests of justice. Approximately 100 organizations have endorsed the bill. The companion bill in the Senate, introduced as S. 714 by Senator Jim Webb, has widespread bipartisan support and 37 cosponsors.

Rooney serves as a Member of the House Judiciary Committee. He spent more than four years in the U.S. Army JAG Corps, serving as Special Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Texas where he prosecuted all civilian crimes on Fort Hood, TX. He then taught law at West Point from 2002-04.

A copy of the bill will be available at the press conference.

Who: Rep. Bill Delahunt (D-MA), Rep. Darryl Issa (R-CA), Rep. Marcia Fudge (D-OH), and Rep. Tom Rooney (R-FL)

What: Press conference to announce introduction of the National Criminal Justice Commission Act of 2010

Where: Room 2255 of the Rayburn House Office Building

When: 11:30 AM Tuesday April 27, 2010

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